Encouraging the Farming of Medicinal Plants

2887. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased *to* state:

(a) whether in view of the in creasing acceptance and use of ISM and Homoeopathy by the people, any concrete plan has been drawn up for large-scale production of medicinal plants used in ISM and Homoeopa thy;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to set up special medicinal plant farms in different areas of the country;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) what are the incentives being given proposed to be given to encourage the farming of medicinal plants/ herbs to ensure their increased systematic productton?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare had organised seminars and Workshops on Medicinal Plants for creating awareness and proper action ■ in this regard by the concerned Ministries / Departments/ organisations/State Governments/UTs Administrations.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research is working on a number of plant species and improved varieties of Opium, Asgand and Isabghol have been released. Besides it, the Research Councils of Indian Systems of Medicine under this Ministry have taken up experimental cultivation of some of the Medicinal Plants in their Herbal Gardens.

(c) and (d) Many Herbal Gardens have been established in various parts of the country in different Agro-climatic conditions for preservation of natural Herbs.

(e) This Ministry is formulatin a scheme for providing incentives to various Government/semi-Govt. organisations in States/U. Ts, Autonomous bodies and Statutory organisa tions etc. for cultivation of specified Medicinal Plants.

Setting up of TIDAL power projects

2888. SHRI PRAMOD MAHA-JAN: SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure so far incurred on investigations/tests on Tidal Power Project in Gulf of Kutch,

(b) the estimated cost of the Project and whether it envisages installation of 36 units of 25 MW each; and

(c) how the cost per unit would compare with that generated through other sources i. e. thermal, hydel, etc?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) An expenditure of Rs. 4. 65 crores has been incurred on investigations and studies for the proposed tidal power pro ject in the Gulf of Kachchh upto March, 1990.

(b) As per the feasibility report by the Central Electricity Authority in 1988, the project, including the transmission system, is estimated to cost Rs. 1387. 25 crores at the Decem ber, 1987 price level. The report envisages an installation of 36 units of 25 MW each.

(c) The cost of generation from the project works out to around 96 paise per KWh. The estimated cost of generation from conventional hydro and thermal projects recently appraised by the Central Electricity Authority is as under: